



|  |                      |                        |         |
|--|----------------------|------------------------|---------|
| <b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b><br><i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i> | Application Number   | 10/690,157             |         |
|  | Filing Date          | October 16, 2003       |         |
|  | First Named Inventor | Mark A. Michalicek     |         |
|  | Art Unit             | 2818                   |         |
|  | Examiner Name        | Thao P. Le             |         |
| Total Number of Pages in this Submission   | 13                   | Attorney Docket Number | AFD 624 |

| ENCLOSURES <i>(check all that apply)</i>                                     |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form                                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)  | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached  | <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences          |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Petition   | <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to a Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> After Final   | <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert a Provisional Application                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address | <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) <i>(please identify below):</i>                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement                    | <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____                                      |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)              | Remarks<br>There is no fee associated with this filing.                                 |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts / Incomplete Application  |   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 |   |  |

| SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY OR AGENT |                         |
|---|-------------------------|
| Firm or Individual Name                   | GERALD B. HOLLINS       |
| Signature                                 | <i>Gerald B Hollins</i> |
| Date                                      | 18 October 2004         |

| CERTIFICATE OF MAILING   |                         |
|--|-------------------------|
| I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or <u>deposited with the United States Postal Service</u> with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below. |                         |
| Typed or printed name  | GERALD B. HOLLINS       |
| Signature  | <i>Gerald B Hollins</i> |
| Date   | 10/18/04                |



IPW

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appl. No. : 10/690,157 Confirmation No. : 6036  
Applicant(s) : Mark A. Michalicek  
Filed : October 16, 2003  
TC/AU : 2818  
Examiner : Thao P. Le  
Docket No. : AFD 624  
Customer No. : 26902

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

RECEIVED  
OCT 22 2004  
OIP&T/JCW/S

**ELECTION and PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of restriction dated 27 September 2004, please consider the enclosed election and amend the above-identified application as follows:

**An Election** of claims for present examination appears on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin in page 3 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Drawings** begin on page 8 of this paper and include both an attached replacement sheet and an annotated sheet showing changes.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 9 of this paper.

An **Appendix** including amended drawing figures is attached following page 9 of this paper.

**Election**

Applicant hereby elects the claims identified in the Examiner's Action as Group II, claims 1-11 together with the herein newly added Group II claims 37-41 for present examination on the merits.